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ACTION DIWY-01

INFO OCT-01 MMS-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

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EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-09 CU-02 OES-03 HEW-02 AID-05 OMB-01

TRSE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9491

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SGEN, AORG

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE FOR THE WORLD CONFERENCE
ON IWY (WCIWY)--REDRAFT OF INTRODUCTION TO DRAFT INTERNATIONAL
PLAN OF ACTION

1. AS RESULT OF WORKING GROUP EFFORTS YESTERDAY EVENING, MARCH 12,
COMITE HAS JUST RECEIVED SHORTENED AND IMPROVED INTRODUCTION TO
PLAN WHICH COMBINES OLD CHAPTERS I AND II. TEXT BELOW.

2. US DEL BELIEVES THIS WORDING ACCEPTABLE. IF NOT, WOULD AP-
PRECiate INSTRUCTIONS ON SPECIFIC WORD CHANGES ASAP SINCE TEXT
WILL BE DISCUSSED THIS AFTERNOON, MARCH 13. DEPT WILL NOTE THAT
SPACE FOR NEW PARA 13, WHICH IS TO REPLACE OLD PARA 24,
HAS BEEN LEFT BLANK PENDING SUBMISSION OF DIFFERENT
RECOMMENDATIONS. THIS IS PARA UNDER WHICH MEXICO HAS PROPOSED
INCLUSION OF REFERENCE TO CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND
DUTIES OF STATES (CERDS). MEXICAN AND ALTERNATIVE PROPOSALS

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COVERED SEPTTEL.

QUOTE DRAFT INTERNATIONAL PLAN OF ACTION

REVISED PROPOSALS AND SUGGESTIONS ON CHAPTERS I AND II OF THE DRAFT INTERNATIONAL PLAN OF ACTION SUBMITTED BY THE DELEGATIONS OF AUSTRALIA, BELGIUM, BRAZIL, FRANCE, INDIA IRAN, JAPAN, MEXICO, NIGER, ROMANIA, RWANDA, SENEGAL, SIERRA LEONE, SWEDEN, TUNISIA, UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND VENEZUELA

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND TO THE PLAN

1. IN SUBSCRIBING TO THE CHARTER, THE PEOPLES OF THE UNITED NATIONS UNDERTOOK SPECIFIC COMMITMENTS: "TO SAVE SUCCEEDING GENERATIONS FROM THE SCOURGE OF WAR, TO REAFFIRM FAITH IN FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS, IN THE DIGNITY AND WORTH OF THE HUMAN PERSON, IN THE EQUAL RIGHTS OF MEN AND WOMEN, AND OF NATIONS LARGE AND SMALL, ... AND TO PROMOTE SOCIAL PROGRESS AND BETTER STANDARDS OF LIFE IN LARGER FREEDOM."

2. MANY CONVENTIONS, DECLARATIONS, FORMAL RECOMMENDATIONS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS HAVE BEEN ADOPTED SINCE THEN REINFORCING AND ELABORATING THESE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES. SOME OF THEM SEEK TO SAFEGUARD AND PROMOTE THE HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS OF ALL PERSONS WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION OF ANY KIND. OTHERS DEAL WITH GENERAL CONCEPTS OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT, AND INCLUDE INTERNATIONAL STRATEGIES, PROGRAMMES AND PLANS OF ACTION. SOME HAVE THE MERE SPECIFIC AIM OF ELIMINATING SEX DISCRIMINATION AND PROMOTING THE EQUAL RIGHTS OF MEN AND WOMEN. THE EXISTENCE OF THESE DOCUMENTS REFLECTS THE EVER-INCREASING AWARENESS IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY OF THE UNEVEN DEVELOPMENT OF PEOPLES AND OF THE TRAGEDY OF ALL FORMS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, DISCRIMINATION ON GROUNDS OF SEX, ETC., AND THE EVIDENT WILL TO PROMOTE PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT IN PEACE AND JUSTICE.

3. IN THESE VARIOUS INSTRUMENTS THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY HAS PROCLAIMED THAT THE FULL AND COMPLETE DEVELOPMENT OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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A COUNTRY, THE WELFARE OF THE WORLD AND THE CAUSE OF PEACE REQUIRE THE MAXIMUM PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN AS WELL AS MEN IN ALL FIELDS. IT HAS DECLARED THAT ALL HUMAN BEINGS WITHOUT DISTINCTION HAVE THE RIGHT TO ENJOY THE FRUITS OF SOCIAL PROGRESS AND SHOULD ON THEIR PART CONTRIBUTE TO IT. IT HAS CONDEMNED SEX DISCRIMINATION AS FUNDAMENTALLY UNJUST, AN OFFENCE AGAINST HUMAN DIGNITY AND AN INFRINGEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS. IT HAS INCLUDED THE FULL INTEGRATION OF WOMEN IN THE TOTAL DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS AS A STATED OBJECTIVE OF THE DECADE OF THE 1970S.

4. DESPITE THESE SOLEMN PRONOUNCEMENTS AND NOTWITHSTANDING THE WORK ACCOMPLISHED IN PARTICULAR BY THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN AND THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES CONCERNED, THE PROGRESS MADE IN TRANSLATING THESE PRINCIPLES INTO PRACTICAL REALITY IS PROVING SLOW AND UNEVEN.

5. THERE ARE SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES IN THE STATUS OF WOMEN IN DIFFERENT COUNTRIES AND REGIONS OF THE WORLD WHICH ARE ROOTED IN THE POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STRUCTURE, IN THE CULTURAL FRAMEWORK AND IN THE LEVEL OF DEVELOPMENT OF EACH COUNTRY OR IN THE SOCIAL CATEGORY OF WOMEN WITHIN A GIVEN COUNTRY. HOWEVER, BASIC SIMILARITIES UNITE WOMEN OF ALL COUNTRIES, THE MOST NOTABLE BEING THE PERSISTING DE FACTO GAP BETWEEN THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STATUS OF WOMEN AND THAT OF MEN WITHIN EACH COUNTRY.

6. AS A RESULT OF THE UNEVEN DEVELOPMENT WHICH PREVAILS IN INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS, THREE QUARTERS OF HUMANITY IS FACED WITH URGENT AND PRESSING SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. THE STATUS OF WOMEN IS AFFECTED BY SUCH PROBLEMS TO A GREATER DEGREE IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD AND IMPROVEMENTS IN THE SITUATION OF WOMEN ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF GLOBAL PROJECT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW ECONOMIC ORDER.

7. IN SOME COUNTRIES WOMEN FORM THE MAJORITY OF THE AGRICULTURAL WORK FORCE. BECAUSE OF THIS AND BECAUSE OF THEIR IMPORTANT ROLE IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND IN THE PREPARATION, PROCESSING AND MARKETING OF FOOD, THEY CONSTITUTE A SUBSTANTIAL ECONOMIC RESOURCE. NEVERTHELESS, IF THE RURAL WORKER'S LACK OF TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT, EDUCATION AND TRAINING IS TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT, IT WILL BE SEEN THAT IN MANY COUNTRIES THE STATUS
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OF WOMEN IN THIS SECTOR IS DOUBLY DISADVANTAGED.

8. AS SOCIETIES EVOLVE FROM A TRADITIONAL ECONOMY TO VARIOUS LEVELS OF MODERNIZATION AND INDUSTRIALIZATION, WOMEN MAY, INITIALLY, BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY THE PROCESS. THE RESURGENCE OF WOMEN'S MOVEMENTS IN THE PAST DECADE IN MANY COUNTRIES HAS HIGHLIGHTED THESE PROBLEMS AND BROUGHT THEM TO THE FOREFRONT OF PUBLIC AWARENESS.

9. THE REALITY OF THE PROBLEMS WHICH WOMEN STILL MEET IN THEIR DAILY LIFE AND IN THEIR EFFORTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ACTIVITY AND THE POLITICAL ADMINISTRATION OF THEIR COUNTRIES, AND THE WASTE REPRESENTED BY THE UNDER-UTILIZATION OF THE POTENTIALITIES OF APPROXIMATELY 50 PER CENT OF THE WORLD'S POPULATION, HAVE PROMPTED THE UNITED NATIONS TO PROCLAIM 1975 AS INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR, AND TO CALL FOR INTENSIFIED ACTION TO PROMOTE EQUAL RIGHTS, OPPORTUNITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF BOTH SEXES, TO ENSURE

THE FULL INTEGRATION OF WOMEN IN THE TOTAL DEVELOPMENT EFFORT,
AND TO INVOLVE WOMEN WIDELY IN INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION
AND HENCE IN THE STRENGTHENING OF WORLD PEACE.

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10. THIS PLAN IS NOT INTENDED AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR EXISTING
INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS AND PROGRAMMES. IT IS AIMED MAINLY
AT STIMULATING NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ACTION TO SOLVE
THE PROBLEMS OF UNDERDEVELOPMENT AND OF THE SOCIO-
ECONOMIC STRUCTURE WHICH PLACES WOMEN IN AN INFERIOR
POSITION, IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S
YEAR.

11. THE ACHIEVEMENT OF EQUALITY BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN IMPLIES
THAT THEY SHOULD HAVE EQUAL RIGHTS, OPPORTUNITIES AND RES-
PONSIBILITIES TO ENABLE THEM TO DEVELOP THEIR TALENTS AND
CAPABILITIES FOR THEIR OWN PERSONAL FULFILMENT AND THE BENEFIT
OF SOCIETY. TO THAT END, THE REASSESSMENT OF THE FUNCTIONS
AND ROLES TRADITIONALLY ALLOTTED TO EACH SEX WITHIN THE FAMILY
AND THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE IS ESSENTIAL. THE NECESSITY OF

A CHANGE IN THE TRADITIONAL ROLE OF MEN AS WELL AS OF WOMEN
MUST BE RECOGNIZED. IN ORDER TO ALLOW FOR WOMEN'S EQUAL
PARTICIPATION IN ALL SOCIETAL ACTIVITIES, MEN MUST ACCEPT
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SHARED RESPONSIBILITY FOR HOME AND CHILDREN. THE OBJECTIVE
IS NOT TO GIVE WOMEN A PREFERENTIAL ROLE, BUT TO ENSURE THE
COMPLETE ASSIMILATION OF MEN AND WOMEN IN THE SOCIAL ORDER.

12. THE INTEGRATION OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT CALLS FOR AGREEMENT
TO WIDEN THEIR ACTIVITIES TO EMBRACE ALL ASPECTS OF SOCIAL,
ECONOMIC, POLITICAL AND CULTURAL LIFE. THEY MUST BE PROVIDED
WITH THE NECESSARY SKILLS TO MAKE THEIR CONTRIBUTION
MORE EFFECTIVE IN TERMS OF PRODUCTION, AND TO ENSURE THEIR
GREATER PARTICIPATION IN DECISION-MAKING, PLANNING AND
IMPLEMENTATION OF ALL PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS. FULL INTE-
GRATION ALSO IMPLIES THAT WOMEN RECEIVE THEIR FAIR SHARE OF
THE BENEFITS OF DEVELOPMENT, THEREBY HELPING TO ENSURE
A MORE EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF INCOME AMONG ALL SECTORS
OF THE POPULATION.

NEW PARAGRAPH 13. (BEGIN BRACKETS) AT LEAST TWO DIFFERENT
RECOMMENDATIONA RE TO BE CIRCULATED INTO PLENARY SESSION.
(END BRACKETS)

14. THE PLAN AIMS AT ENSURING THAT THE ORIGINAL AND MULTI-
DIMENSIONAL CONTRIBUTION - BOTH ACTUAL AND POTENTIAL -
OF WOMEN IS NOT OVERLOOKED IN EXISTING CONCEPTS FOR DEVELOP-
MENT AND AN IMPROVED WORLD ECONOMIC EQUILIBRIUM. RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ACTION ARE PROPOSED WITH THE
AIM OF ACCELERATING THE NECESSARY CHANGES IN ALL AREAS,
AND PARTICULARLY IN THOSE WHERE WOMEN HAVE BEEN ESPECIALLY
DISADVANTAGED. UNQUOTE
SCHAUFLE

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